

# The Washington Times

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## WHERE PUBLIC SENTIMENT STOOD.

From time to time when the popular election of Senators has been under discussion, opponents of the proposition have been wont to insist that there was no real popular demand for it; that the movement in its favor was factitious and artificial, with no real backing of public interest and concern.

This was the particular reason which Senator Root has been heard, time and again, to put forward. With that large air of confident authority which vests the views of the New York Senator with whatever of convincing force they have, he insisted upon this attitude. It was just foolish waste of time to submit a proposition that nobody in particular favored, and that when placed before the people, fairly examined by them, and at length acted upon by the legislatures, would be rejected on its merits!

Just in order that the record may be kept straight; just to reassure anybody who, at some future time, may be in danger of mistaking oracular assertion for profound wisdom, it is worth while to observe that in a very few weeks the popular election resolution has been indorsed in fourteen States, has been defeated, as we recall, in only one, and is likely to be reconsidered and ratified in that one.

## JUDGE KNAPP'S GOOD WORK.

Justice Martin A. Knapp, head of the Court of Commerce, has not been a popular or appealing figure in that capacity. It would be quite senseless to pretend the contrary.

On the other side, it would be unjust and indecent to deny to Judge Knapp full credit for the remarkable measure of his public service as chief of the mediation board under the Erdman law. He and his equally efficient associate, Prof. Neill, have never yet failed, we believe, to prevent a strike when their services have been called in for the purpose of discovering a meeting ground for employers and employees. Their record is a truly remarkable one, and their successes have established a new understanding of the proper relations between organized labor and organized employment.

Whatever may be thought of Judge Knapp as a judge of the Commerce Court, and whatever may be the future of that bench, it would be a grave mistake to permit Judge Knapp to be lost to the work of administering the Erdman act. He ought to continue in that post as long as he is willing to give the service. When he was head of the Interstate Commerce Commission, he was ex officio a mediator. When he left the Commerce Commission, the law was changed to continue him, though a circuit judge, as head of the mediation board. And if any further change shall overtake his official status, there should be readjustment of the law so that he may continue the great work he has been doing to conciliate differences in the labor world.

## EDISON AT WORK.

Edison at 66—February 11—devoting his birthday to his laboratory, at work to solve the elusive question connected with some new invention, is not unique in his enthusiasm, his devotion to work nor the youth of his spirit. The scope of his accomplishments and the frankness with which he shares his efforts and his aspirations with the people combine to make his figure as a worker stand out above the rest.

No American of present times manages to convey more typically the idea of the field in which he works and the vitality that attaches to intense interest in the work than Edison does. Edison has completed more than three score years, but declares that he feels himself not over twenty-five. He looks into the future of time as he seeks the secrets of electricity with the conviction of many more years before him.

Edison should have these years. Rising each day with keenest zest for his problems, he is an inspiring embodiment of the joy of work and its reflex on the man who has heart and soul in it. Activity of this sort is no burden. It is the dynamo. Worry, anxiety and plodding in a rut weigh down.

It is the rare man who makes strides in the field of invention and research as years go on. But there are thousands upon thousands who should know the life that comes from work into which they throw themselves with belief and interest in the accomplishment.

## REASON ENOUGH FOR HESITATION.

Mexico comprises about 750,000 square miles, being almost as large as the whole of that part of the United States lying east of the Mississippi river. It has a mixed population of about 15,000,000, less than 20 per cent being white. According to late statistics, a little more than 40 per cent is of mixed breed and a little less than 40 per cent Indian. Probably 75 per cent is illiterate.

The country is sparsely settled over large areas, is mountainous and difficult of access, making ideal conditions for guerrilla warfare. The climate in many sections is mild, the soil productive with little tilling, thus giving support to a rude people who can get along with a minimum of work and spend the better part of their time on the warpath fighting for and against the government or pillaging those who have been fortunate enough to acquire a little property.

This is the country and the people among whom revolution and virtual anarchy now bring the United States face to face with a possible duty which all

thoughtful citizens view with nothing less than consternation.

The character of Mexico and its people negative the idea that we can enter the country with an army and after a short campaign come away. It is estimated that it would require 350,000 men at the lowest estimate to pacify the country once we became engaged, as would very likely happen, with combatants of all factors brought together by hatred of a common enemy. Such a campaign would cost thousands of American lives and hundreds of millions of money.

The outlook is simply appalling, and while no American would shrink from an expenditure of either blood or money which national duty and national honor or the cause of civilization and our international policy force upon us, every sensible man will demand that, before embarking upon so abhorrent a program, every resource be exhausted to avert the necessity.

This country is to be congratulated that at such a moment of extreme gravity in its international affairs there has not yet become evident in the Administration or Congress a single trace of the jingoism that led to the Spanish war.

If we must go into Mexico, we will; but it will be done in deep appreciation of all that such a course involves or may involve.

## THE WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION BILL.

Indications are that the workmen's compensation measure, on which a vast amount of effort has been expended, will fail of passage this Congress. It has been forced into a bad situation in the end-of-the-session jam, because its opponents have been able to maneuver it there. There is yet hope for it, but mighty little confidence.

If this measure fails, it will be occasion for genuine regret. In the first place, it applies to the whole subject of injuries in industry, the doctrine of society's general responsibility. That is scientific and inevitable. It accepts, tardily it is true, the conclusion that, no matter whether technical negligence of employer or employee is responsible for the accident, the result of a worker's disability must be the loss of all or part of his services. From some source, there must be provision to care for him and his dependents. Whether it shall be provided through charity or through a frank acceptance of the burden as an obligation of the industry, it is at length a charge upon society.

The measure now pending in Congress is probably the most generous toward employees that has been made law in any part of the world. It has the ardent support of the vast preponderance of organized labor, but is bitterly opposed by a small section, almost entirely in the South. Its opponents have made very plain that they have most inadequate understanding of the measure, and that they are unduly suspicious of the purpose of those railroads that are willing to have it become law.

There has been a curious line-up of protagonists and antagonists on this discussion. Most of the opposition to the bill is Democratic, and it comes in large part from men who would naturally be expected to be heart and soul for such a program. They have insisted, of course, that this bill is a dangerous one; a means for depriving the injured workman or his heirs of rights that are now assured to them. It would seem that this view had been amply refuted, but the men who maintain it are none the less insistent that such legislation shall not pass.

Herein the liberal Democrats are giving an excellent illustration of the basic differences between them and the Progressive party. The Progressives are in favor of such legislation as this, because they have a large social purpose to serve, a broad social view of the means by which to serve. The Democrats who oppose this bill, professing to be just as advanced, are in fact unable to appreciate the conditions with which they must cope. Whether intending to do so or not, they are making the fight for the ambulance-chasing lawyer and the shyster claim agent. The injured man and his family see their real, substantial interest in the passage of the measure.

## THE LATEST COAL TRUST SUIT.

The anthracite combination, once having engrossed, through monopoly, the power to do so, has overreached itself, with the result that it has the Federal Government once more on its trail, with a new litigation under the anti-trust act.

The prices that have been charged for coal the past season, together with the difficulties of securing supplies, have aroused intense hostility toward the interests that control anthracite. Whatever may be the technical defense against the Government's charges, there is a widespread opinion that, on the merits, on the essentials, the anthracite combination is one of the very worst in the country. Whether it be viewed from the standpoint of its labor's pay and conditions, or the prices it exacts from patrons, it has need of defense.

In the case, recently decided, involving this combination of coal and railroad interests, the defendants claimed a victory, at least in part. But the Department of Justice does not choose to regard it in that light. Rather, it finds that further actions are necessary to enforce the Sherman law rule against all the operations of the combination; and it is now instituting these additional proceedings.

It is well known, now, that when, early in the Roosevelt Administration, there was serious danger of the country being deprived of heat and power by reason of a tie-up in the anthracite region, Mr. Roosevelt made tentative arrangements to take possession of the mines and operate them under the control of the army on the ground of absolute public necessity. It would seem that, having been brought to the verge of so revolutionary a procedure as that the anthracite barons would have learned wisdom, and appreciated the necessity of keeping in long-distance telephone communication with public opinion. They have not done so, and that is about all that need be said in explanation of the present renewal of the Government's war against them.

## THIS & THAT

With Sometimes a Little of the Other

A glance through exchanges indicates that others are having as much trouble as we are to pull something new on the suffrage question, though they don't all know it. The opening gag of our suffrage contest is printed below; but it isn't the winner, by any means. The prize for the best single will be two seats for any theater in town, though we reserve the privilege of withholding the reward if no worthy wheeze be submitted. Contestants are not confined to the hike—anything touching on suffrage is eligible.

SUFFRAGE-GEM NO. 1.  
By CHEVY CHASE.  
Suggested name for the suffrage hikers who marched 10 minutes and then quit: The suffrage pikers.

We hate to see things go to waste. The "Post" calls the Government's latest prosecution of the Coal trust—excuse us, the so-called alleged Coal trust—"the most far-reaching suit yet," when they might have made a scorching hit by referring to it merely as "the Government's long suit." This way, of course, the hit is ours. \* \* \*

Don't be sarcastic.

Champagne-Blue Eyes, Presumably.  
(From the "Times.")  
She was a winsome girl of nineteen, blond of complexion, with golden hair, sherry-red lips, and a bonnie blue eye.

Automobile "borrowers," from now on, will be rewarded with prison terms or heavy fines; but the miscreant who takes typewriter erasers continues to go unpunished. A typewriter eraser is the Easiest Thing in the World to Lose—barring, of course, quick tempers and \$5 umbrellas. Were we sitting as judge the eraser thief would draw a sentence second only to that of the Man Who Has Seen the Play Before.

Accommodations for in-augment are bringing ridiculous prices, despite the committee's assurances to the contrary. If you doubt this, go out and try to get some. Seats on the reviewing stands are going, and most of them gone, at \$5, and they aren't worth it. WHY NOT A SAFE AND SANE INAUGURATION?

"So far as the civic committee is concerned," says Chairman Harper, "the parade could start today." That isn't a bad idea. If it starts today there might be some chance of its reaching a given point by noon of March 4, as stipulated in the bond.

No; After Today It's the Ex-cise Bill.  
G. S. K.: From the shunting around it gets, you might almost call it the exercise bill, mightn't you?  
CHENNIE.

The charges and counter-charges in Charleston are reminiscent of the unloaded gun calling the aeroplane unsafe.

To davidharum it, there's as much human nature in Charleston as there was in Springfield, if not more.

Charleston, by the way, with the bribery thing and the mining fuss, continues to bat 300 in the Front Page League, despite vigorous competition from Mexico.

Confound It, How Do WE Know?  
G. S. K.: Tell me something: Is there any connection, d'ye think, 'twixt turkey trot and Gallipoli?  
A. B. N.

There we go—splintering a resolution for the sake of a palsied wheeze! It has been the policy of this straggling staple to avoid mention of the turkey trot, both on general principles and because we're sick of seeing it in print. And now we have to start all over again.

For the McComb's Club: "The Times."  
(From the "Times.")  
With the brilliant, elegant little more than three weeks away, suffrage headquarters, at 109 F street, is a busy little place.

"After reading of Mr. Patton's fine," says Hugh S. Fullerton, in the Chicago Tribune, "we suggest that, in justice, if Bandt Webb is caught, he should be called 'naughty boy!'"

And the Cash Register trust, found guilty on all counts, we bet will get an awful Scolding.

MINISTERIAL LOGIC.  
(The Rev. Dr. Hawhurst, quoted in the "Herald.")  
"In defense of Falls Church, where I have lived for the last twenty-five years, and where I have served as mayor, I will say that the address made by Representative Hefflin there last Sunday didn't make any impression. My wife hadn't recovered from some of the things he said yet."

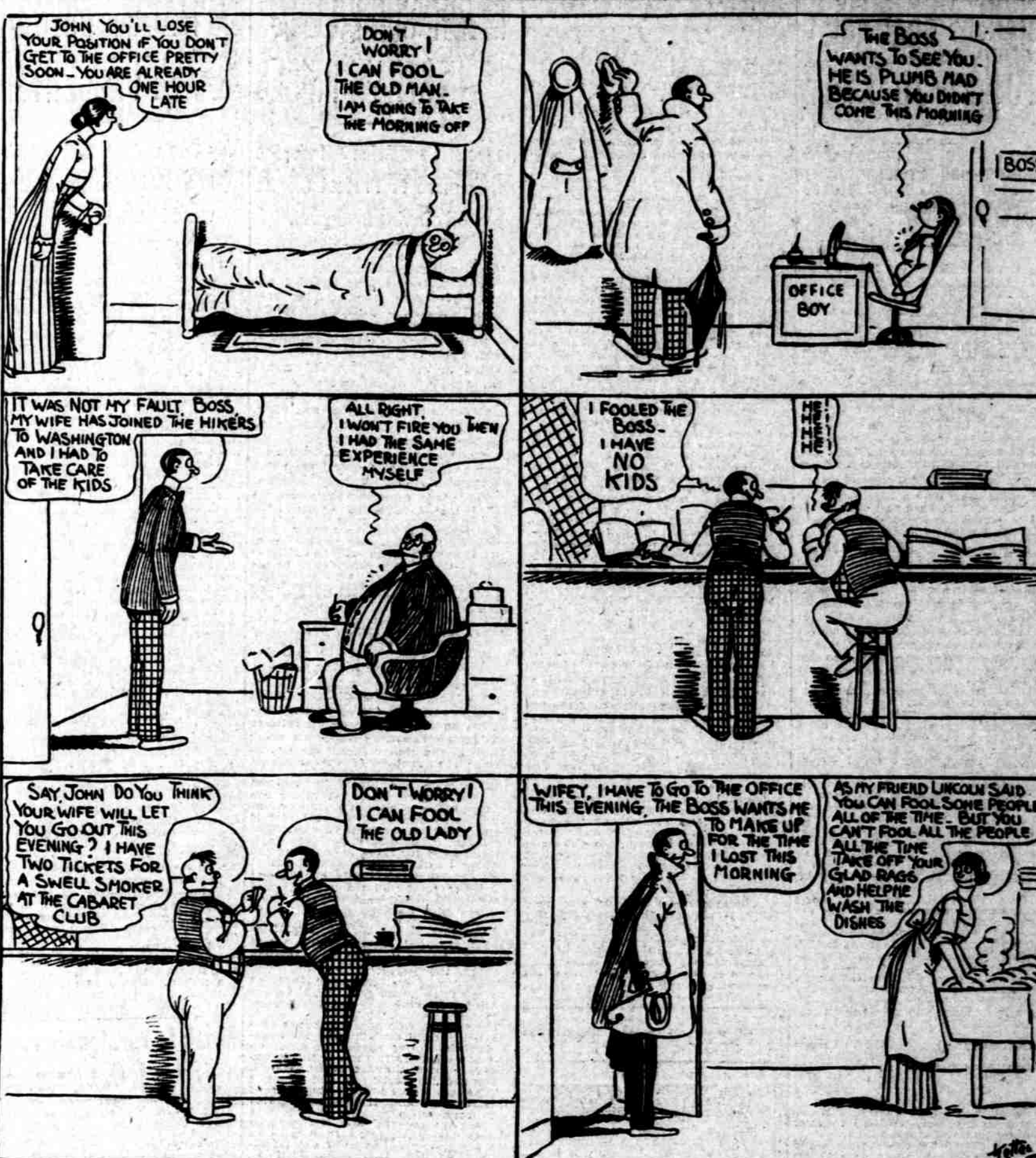
It seems to be settled that his name is plain Woodrow Wilson, so there's nothing to do but sit back and wait for him and Riley Marshall to arrive.

Another One Heard From.  
Should you ask ME, I hold the view That May and Heloise are YOU.  
H. J.

We should "remember the Maine," of course, although it is not unlikely that some—Mr. Taft, for example—would prefer to remember the Utah or Vermont.

ANTI-SUFFRAGE ARGUMENTS.  
X  
"Hike."  
Some say economy and some say not. It's a Dem-erratic House.  
G. S. K.

## SUCH IS LIFE! By MAURICE KETTEN



## Reflections of A Bachelor Girl

THE making of a husband out of a mere man is not a sinecure; it's one of the highest plastic arts known to civilization.

The hardest part of proposing is not telling a girl that you love her, but having to tell her WHY, at least once a day, forever afterward.

Staying out of a flirtation may be the wiser course, but getting out of one is a great deal more interesting and exciting to most men.

Alas! all the single women seem to be trying to get married, and the married women trying to get single nowadays; and it's difficult to say which are having the hardest time of it.

Strange how time flies when a man is trying to kiss a girl and how it hobbles along when he feels that she is expecting him to propose to her.

A flirtation is like a maze: a man goes into it just for curiosity, and then keeps going 'round and 'round, trying to find some way out, without either jumping the fences or calling for help.

The trouble with the people who seem to have everything they want in this life is that they always have so many other things that they DON'T want, including dyspepsia, embonpoint, divorces, nerves, sub-poenas, and scandals.

A man's idea of being strong-minded is to find out what side of an argument his wife is on and then take the other side, just in order to keep it from sagging and preserve the unities.

The "love-letter" of the average bachelor should have a place of honor in the Bureau of Arts and Crafts.

## Received.

DOWN in a southeast Kansas town, relates the Kansas City Star, lives a rather simple minded youth by the name of Bill Beasley, whose facility in contracting small debts at the local stores is only equaled by his success in evading their payment. One day recently, however, Bill made the mistake of showing some money before one of his creditors, and after the hard-fought argument which followed the money was handed over to the storekeeper. "Now," said Bill, sadly, "we're square, and I want a receipt. Make it legal, so you won't be after me again."

And here is the receipt which Bill proudly exhibited to his friends: "To Whom It May Concern. Greeting: All men know by these presents, habes corpus and nux vomica, that Bill Beasley don't owe this firm nothing, and ain't going to. (Signed) John Hobbs."

## Her Kind of Dates.

"That girl!" The barber pointed at a handsome blonde who passed the window.

"Well, she makes more dates than any other girl in town."

"The idea?" "Yes, she works in a calendar factory."

And the barber went on shaving—Youngstown Telegram.

## No Corroboration.

A TRIO of professional story tellers were in a cosy corner of the club spinning yarns. Brown had just told a most unbelievable story and the other two glanced at each other questioningly. "Well, I assure you, gentlemen," said Brown, "if I hadn't seen it myself I should not have believed it."

"Ha—hm—well," said one of the two doubtful ones, "you must remember, old man, that we didn't see it."—Tit-Bits.

## Conquests of Constance

The Literary Guy By Alma Woodward

"I" said not machine phones," prophesied Constance, "is due to chase the public phone switchboard operator girl into the Once Was class, along with the Dodo-fowl. Not today, nor yet tomorrow, maybe. But it's comin'." A talk of "seven minutes in a cash-box phone costs only a nickel. An' afterward you don't have to face the central that's maybe been 'a' to your goo-goo coon."

"In the meantime," I suggested, to shift her thoughts from the blank future to the past, "who was the next victim?"

"Wrong plus in the wrong rack, hey? I'm wise. I'll tell my troubles to the sashman next time. Let's see. The one that came after the one before was the Literary Guy. He sure had me spin' too. While he lasted. But he didn't last. That's the trouble with literary guys. Money's the only thing that lasts forever. An' I guess Litterchoor an' Money, an' even properly introduced yet. Diamonds has the call on Ditties, an' Brokers on Bonds an' Simoons on Soula. A \$2.00 taxi-pin has a nickel subway ride backed against the ropes an' a scream for help.

"But he made a sure-fire hokum hit with me at the start. I guess because he was different. He was a spin-din' chap, all eyes an' string-tie an' low-tide collar an' clothes that didn't show good team work. You know the kind. He told me I had a smile like Moan Eleaser, whoever that gent may have been. An' he wrote a poem about me, too. It was all about the 'laughter of the day' being in my eyes, an' things like that. Think of it! Me with twenty-four hours of ha-has in my lamps! I'd never didn't make much sense, but I'd never had a poem written about me before, not being a breakfast food or patent soup. An' it caught me in the vanity nerve.

"He had me goin' for a spell. But poetry and spaghetti at thirty a throw can't fill a young girl's trustin' heart forever. Besides, he was dretful jealous. Couldn't see the point of my jollyin' along the fat old Night-an'-Day Banks that blow in here for phone calls. He

"You'll never be rich, perhaps, but you're so famous already that they're making a summer resort after you. "He was kind of pleased at that, till I told him the name of the place was Marblehead. Then we just walked slowly out of each other's lives. "What became of him?" I asked. "Oh, Connie replied. "He's all right. He ain't a literary man any more. He got a job."

## What's on the Program in Washington Today

The following Masonic organizations will meet tonight: Lodge—St. John's, No. 11. Royal arch chapters—High priests' convention, election, and business. Eastern Star chapters—Takoma, No. 12; Cathedral, No. 14; Friendship, No. 17.

The following I. O. O. F. organizations will meet tonight: Lodge—Central, No. 1, and Phoenix, No. 25; Metropolitan, No. 16, business. Rebekah degree—Dorcas Lodge, No. 4, degree work.

The following K. of P. organizations will meet tonight: Lodge—Syracuse, No. 10, acquire rank; Rathbone-Superior, No. 29. Pythian Sisters—Rathbone Temple, No. 8, valentine party.

The following National Union councils will meet tonight: National, No. 44; McKinley, No. 22; Georgetown, No. 101.

The following Red Men's organizations will meet tonight: Seneca Tribe, No. 11; Minneola Tribe, No. 14; Idaho Council, No. 1.

Amusements.  
National—"The Red Widow," 8:15 p. m. Belasco—"Ready Money," 8:15 p. m. Columbia—"George Evans' Minstrels," 8:15 p. m. Chase—"Grand opera, 2 p. m.; polite vaudeville, 8:15 p. m. Polka—"Get-Rich-Quick Wallingford," 7:15 and 8:15 p. m. Academy—"African hunt pictures, afternoon and evening. Cosmos—Vaudeville, afternoon and evening. Gayety—New Bohman show, 2:15 and 8:15 p. m. Lyceum—Burr Watson's show, 2:15 and 8:15 p. m.